BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 98-027-S - ORDER NO. 98-186

MARCH 11, 1998

1 pr

IN RE: Application of Midlands Utility, Inc. for
Approval of an Extension of its Sewer Service
Area to Include Cheap-O's Truck Plaza,
Lexington County.

ORDER APPROVING
EXTENSION OF
SERVICE AREA
)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("the Commission") on the request of Midlands Utility, Inc. ("Midlands" or "the Company") for approval of an extension of its service area in order to provide service to one customer located on the I-26 frontage road at Exit 119 in Lexington County, South Carolina. Midlands also seeks a waiver of any notice and hearing requirements. Midlands' request was filed pursuant to 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-504 (1976) and 26 S.C. Code Regs. 103-821(1976).

On January 22, 1998, Midlands filed its request that it be allowed to extend its service area to serve one customer located on the I-26 frontage road at Exit 119 in Lexington County, South Carolina. The customer which Midlands seeks to serve by the requested extension of service area is Cheap-O's Truck Plaza. Midlands states that it has been requested by the owner of the property to provide sewer service to the property. A letter from Martha Worrell, owner of Cheap-O's Truck Plaza, requesting sewer service to this parcel, is attached to Midlands' request. Midlands also filed a copy of the Wastewater Construction Permit issued by the South Carolina Department of Health and

Environmental Control ("DHEC") which authorizes construction of the facilities needed to serve the property. Midlands also advises the Commission that Cheap-O's Truck Plaza currently is served by septic tanks which must be pumped daily.

The Commission acknowledges that Midlands is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of South Carolina and is a public utility within the meaning of S.C. Code Ann.§58-5-10 (Supp.1997). As a public utility operating in the State of South Carolina, Midlands is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §58-5-10 (1976) et seq., as amended. Midlands was previously granted a service area by this Commission, and rates and charges for sewer service have heretofore been approved by this Commission.

Upon a thorough review of the matters contained in the request and the applicable law, the Commission finds and concludes that the notice and hearing in this matter should be waived and that Midlands' request for an extension of service area to allow Midlands to serve the parcel of property referenced herein should be granted. The owner of the property in question requested service from Midlands and therefore has notice of Midlands' request for an extension of service area to serve the property. As no other property owners are affected by Midlands' request, the Commission believes and so finds that a waiver of the notice and hearing requirement is proper and in the public interest in the instant matter.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The request of Midlands to extend its service area to include the parcel of property located on the I-26 frontage road at Exit 119 in Lexington County, South Carolina, on which is situated Cheap-O's Truck Plaza, is approved.
- 2. The schedule of rates and charges, previously approved for Midlands by Order No. 97-517 dated June 17, 1997, in Docket No. 96-160-S, is approved for the service area approved herein, effective for service rendered on or after the date of this Order.
- 3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)